

EDITORIAL

Days of Mourning

Tomorrow a beloved King will be laid in his last resting place. Since the sudden death last week of King George VI there has been mourning throughout the land and it will not end when the last funeral rites have been performed over the tired body and it has been laid among his forebearers.

The things that made King George VI great and beloved were the simple things. The taking up of heavy duties which were cast upon him when an older brother failed in his responsibilities; the health which was not robust did not deter him; his family life and example to all and his steadfastness to duty ahead of self, are perhaps the background for the love and respect that he commanded in the millions over which he ruled. These are the things that will live on in history and in the hearts of his people. This is the spirit that will live on after the human frame has been laid to rest. Such a King is not dead.

While millions mourn his earthly passing the same millions rejoice that for sixteen years they were privileged to have such an example for their head of state.

God Save the Queen

People who are well into the fifties will recall the reign of good Queen Victoria when the national anthem was "God Save the Queen". To those younger the present will be the first time that the words "Queen in the National Anthem will be used and may seem strange. Those of that age over the half century, have the unique experience of living under the reign of six rulers. It would appear that the duties of crowned heads are heavy.

Queen Elizabeth comes to her reign in early life and it is sincerely hoped that the prayer of a people for a long reign will be granted. The demands of state are onerous for a young woman. Her people in their anxiety to show their loyalty are perhaps over-zealous and demanding in their attention and public appearances. It is a great task to be the head over so many peoples in such a commonwealth scattered over the far corners of the world.

Queen Elizabeth II has already endeared herself in all parts of the Empire. Canadians have a very vivid and fresh recollection of her graciousness as shown on her recent tour of this Dominion. May she find strength and courage to face her task and may God spare her long to carry on the work before her and fulfil her desire to rule as her father did.

Bright Sunsets

These are days when the sunsets are more beautiful. For those who reach the age of 70 and even at 65, if needed, the declining years when the body fails to give production, the way has been eased by pensions to all to help out the savings that the productive years did not supply. It is not a charity but a right of all citizens to receive back a part of their labour that went into the building up of this great country. It is a debt that many before us were left unpaid but is enjoyed by those now living.

Here in Halton County is the new home for the aged that will be put into operation within a few months. It will fill a great need for those who are unfortunate in not having families with whom they can spend their sunset years. The home that is nearing completion in Halton is but the forerunner of similar homes that will be erected in other Ontario counties. It is a new conception of a home for the aged folk. It is so changed from its predecessors that perhaps it should be renamed.

All these changes in our standards should bring new comfort and joy for those getting on in years, and for whom the prospects were rather bleak. It's a great advancement and one in which Canadians can feel real pride. Halton's new sunset home for old folks, located at Milton, will fill a great need and will mark a great achievement in the honoring of the fathers and mothers and the aged.

It is not at all surprising to find that in many of the crime stories, liquor had a place in setting the stage.

Is it Good or Bad?

It's often been a little doubtful to us just what some artists can see in the brilliant dabs of color that appear on canvas under the heading of modern, abstract or other doubtful titles. It was once explained to us that the variety of imagined images along with the balance, color blending and other classifications provided the judging material for the art pieces.

Our confidence in the type of art that pictures a landscape or something real, was renewed when a headline drew our attention to an article about a 17 year-old lad, Bob Meales. The boy submitted an old chunk of cardboard on which commercial painters had cleaned their brushes, to the curator of the Art Gallery, Toronto, for "constructive criticism".

He received his painting back with a letter from the curator congratulating him for "being aware of the accidental effects that can result from lines, calligraphy, blots and the use of a spray gun."

Naturally when the truth was learned there were many excuses offered for the curator's remarks and possible praise. To our mind he isn't the first curator that has made mistakes. We don't pretend to be a connoisseur of art but some of the canvases hanging in some of the exhibits we've seen don't look too appealing.

There could probably be violent support from "cultural" groups about the propriety of such abstract pieces called art but a painting to us is still something that shows a real object. Through his skill the true artist must present the character, and the finer tones that an ordinary photograph can not suitably record.

We were once told that true art, in all the artistic things like music, painting and writing, led the way and acted as some sort of indirect prophesy of the future. Perhaps it is true, and perhaps it is not. One thing is sure though, we have no desire to interpret the blobs of paint and color, the irregular lines and unpleasant effects achieved in the "modern" painting.

To us, as to many others, the true artist will still be measured by the depth of his painting, the attention to detail and the ability to portray vividly the type of thing ordinary people can recognize.

It will be a lot more trouble for a 17 year-old boy to submit a doctored-up effort and have a curator offer encouragement if reality is the key note of painting and not blobs of color.

A Continuing Work

Following the completion of sewers last year, Acton Council made a splendid restoration of many of the streets and citizens have every reason for pride in them. Unfortunately, the program of street repairs is one that has been deteriorating over the years with lack of materials as one of the items that has deterred attention to that group known as pedestrians.

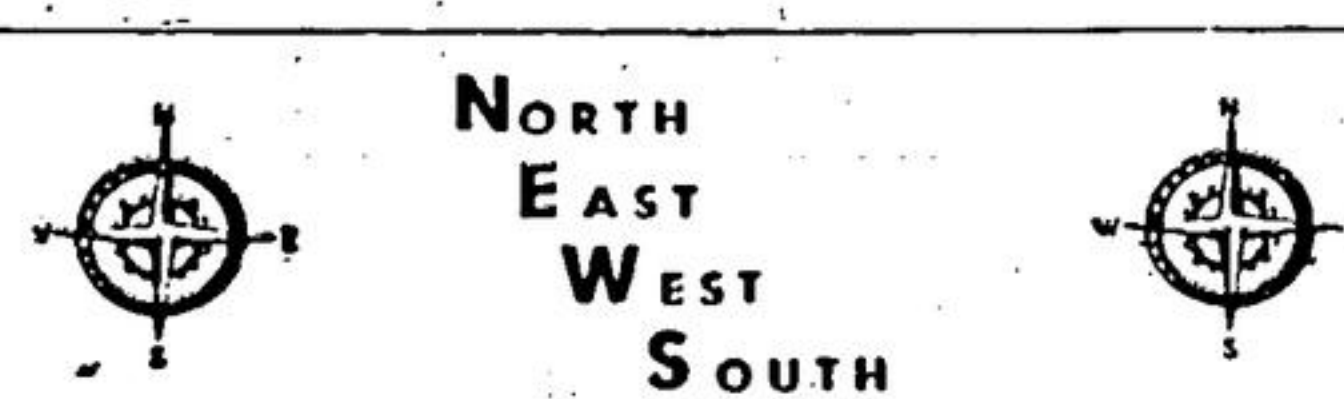
For instance, the residents of Cameron St. have for years been promised sidewalks and everyone will admit the need and the patience of these residents. Last year two blocks of Mill St. sidewalks were brought up above water level off the roads. This year the south section from John St east should be relaid. As we step out of our office door a pool several inches deep floods the whole frontage. The same condition can be found the length of the street to the CNR tracks. It, too, is a condition of long standing. No doubt residents of other sections have sidewalks in mind that require attention.

It appears that the work of improvement is a constant one and that each year a program needs to be carried out and certain appropriations set aside. It is to be hoped that this year Council will be able to carry on the program of street improvements and the pedestrian will have consideration in making streets better and properly drained.

Editorial Notes

This is the year we get the extra day in February and the ladies observe Opportunity Year.

Today is Valentine's Day and the beautiful messages of the present day certainly show an improvement over the old one-centers which used to be so popular and so often used.



County Mourns
Every weekly newspaper in the county of Halton had black border on the front page last week. The Oakville-Trafalgar Journal re-applied Shakespeare's words from "Hamlet" to King George VI and said, "His life was gentle and the elements So mixed in him that Nature might stand up And say to all the world, 'This was a man!'"

All the papers reflected the mood of the town's residents as the articles were too shocked and sympathetic to deal with what would be done about mourning. Of course, no one quite knew... The Acton and Milton papers both recalled what had been done in those towns 16 years ago, on the death of King George V, but well on in this week plans for a service on Friday were still hazy. Plans were hazy, but very deep, very sincere sympathy was clear. How true it is to write, "history has had its ups and downs in England." But we all feel now so closely that King George VI was one of our "ups" in monarchy. And Elizabeth is already a well controlled, conscientious, and yet so human queen.

Department of Sly Ways
This comes from the Georgetown Herald and from the Chesley Enterprise. It tells of one Englishman's reactions when he was taken on a motor trip in Canada. When he expressed amazement at our morality, his hosts naturally queried him about it. Whereupon the English guest commented on the road signs he had seen and quoted them something along this order: "Soft shoulders... watch the curves... buy Ethyl... five gals for \$2.00".

Copper and Green
What a scramble and scrape of information this column is! But surely there are quite a few things on these dreary winter days how lovely it would be to have a colorized living-room in two shades of paint. Here's just a little paragraph from the Oakville Record-Star of last week that's full of possibilities.

Minimum Required Is \$5,222,000
With the warning that essential services of the Canadian Red Cross Society would have to be curtailed or eliminated if the 1952 objective is not reached. Hon. Leopold Macaulay, chairman of the Central Council, announced this year's campaign objective as \$5,222,000 or a 4.4 per cent increase over 1951.

Pointing out that the Society has more commitments than at any time in its peacetime history, Mr. Macaulay emphasized the work done by the eminent business men who make up the Budget Committee in scrutinizing most rigidly the budgets of the various services. He stated that all 10 divisions showed their desire to keep the annual objectives to the lowest possible figure and he again emphasized that the figure sought, \$5,222,000, was the absolute minimum required to carry on Red Cross services in 1952.

THE GOOD OLD DAYS MAY HAVE SEEMED BETTER

Back in 1902
From the Issue of The Edge Press of Thursday, February 13th, 1902
The remains of one of our oldest and most highly esteemed residents were laid to rest in Fairview Cemetery on Tuesday afternoon. One by one the pioneers of this section are being called away and this time it is Alexander Mann, Esq. After several years of somewhat feeble physical health, though strong and vigorous mentally until the last, he entered into eternal rest.
Dr. Robertson, Milton, has been appointed medical health officer at a yearly salary of \$1,000.
The Lenten season commenced yesterday.
Mr. H. T. Arnold expects to complete the removal of his glove works to Georgetown this week. The new factory there presents an imposing appearance and is quite commodious.
The big February blow kept up pretty constantly during the week. As a result many of the roads were blocked for the first time this winter.
Municipal Officer Graham offers for sale his residence next the town hall.
Mr. J. S. Deacon, inspector of public schools, visited the schools here last Wednesday.
Mr. J. B. Wallace and Mr. and Mrs. Gentles attended the bachelors' ball in Guelph on Thursday evening last.
From the advertisements: "dress goods, 5 pieces 42 inch, fancy check tweed, was 25c, for 15c; Persian lamb capeline, 6 tails, was \$10, for \$7; electric seal, Thibst trimmings, was \$18, for \$14; black fur robe, regular price \$15, for \$12."
"The handiest, cheapest, quickest and most reliable servant for your home and general business is a telephone. Try it."
"Cash for raw furs."

Back in 1932
From the Issue of The Free Press of Thursday, February 11th, 1932
The thunderstorm of this morning, February 11th, is certainly very unusual.
A score or so of young people of Perth Avenue United Church Toronto, motored from the city and spent a social evening at the home of Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Van der Vorst Saturday.
At the annual convention of the Fair's Association held in Toronto last week, Mr. R. J. Kerr was among the speakers. Mr. Kerr addressed the gathering on the subject: "Are Circuses and Carnivals Necessary to the Success of a Fall Fair?"
Last Thursday night the Guelph Players put on, under the auspices of St. Joseph's Players, the "Mardi Gras" three act comedy. This event was thoroughly enjoyed by a large audience and proved to be one of the most enjoyable events of the season.
Under a recent Order-in-Council, Mr. J. M. McDonald, of Acton, has been appointed a Justice of the Peace for the County of Halton.
Hockey at last got underway and Acton defeated Hespeler and Elora and won a place in the play-offs. The deciding game is between Elora and Hespeler.
Premier Bennett apparently has not much faith in the St. Lawrence project, when it is necessary to sign first and discuss the affair in Parliament after. It isn't the usual procedure of business.
One disadvantage of having a good hockey team is getting opposition. In the group of seven teams Guelph, Fergus, Georgetown and now Elira have dropped out without meeting the Acton hockeyists.
DIED
WILLIAMS - At the home, 15 Crescent St., Acton, on Friday, February 5th, 1932, Ellen Fish, beloved wife of Francis Erwin Williams.

PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY AND TRAVELLER'S GUIDE

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| MEDICAL DR. W. G. C. KENNEY Physician and Surgeon Office in Symon Block, Mill St., Acton. Office Phone 78 Residence Church St. Phone 150 DR. D. A. GARRETT Physician and Surgeon Corner of Willow and River Sts. Entrance River Street Acton, Ontario Phone 238 | REAL ESTATE AND INSURANCE WRIGHT REAL ESTATE AND INSURANCE F. L. WRIGHT N. B. WRIGHT 20 Wilbur St. 69 McDonnell St. Acton, Ont. Guelph, Ont. Phone 95 Phone 4015W Valuators Realtors Insurers Member Appraisal Institute of Canada Members Guelph and District Real Estate Board Members Guelph and District Insurance Agents Association We urgently require listings of farm property from 50 to 300 acres. Also small holdings from 1 to 25 acres. Contact C. H. DYMMENT Realtor 123 Westworth St. S., Hamilton Phone 7905 Or ANDY FRANK Salesman at Cambridge Phone Milton 3252 |
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G. A. Dills, Editor and Publisher

BUSINESS AND EDITORIAL OFFICE TELEPHONE 174

AT THE Churches

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| United Church of Canada Acton, Ontario A FRIENDLY CHURCH Rev. E. A. Currey, B.A., B.D. Minister Parsonage, 29 Bower Avenue Phone 60 Miss O. M. Lampard, A.T.C.M., Organist and Choir Leader SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 17th, 1952 10:00 a.m. - Sunday School 11:00 a.m. - Morning Worship 7:00 p.m. - Evening Worship Thought for the Week I resolved that like the sun, so long as my day lasted, I would look on the bright side of every thing. (Thomas Hood) | Presbyterian Church in Canada KNOX CHURCH, ACTON REV. ROBERT H. ARMSTRONG, M.A., B.D., Minister SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 17th, 1952 10:00 a.m. - Sunday School 11:00 a.m. - Divine Worship 7:00 p.m. - Evening Service A Warm Welcome Awaits You |
| St. Alban's Church (Anglican) Supply Minister, Archdeacon McIntosh of Hamilton SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 17th, 1952 10:00 a.m. - Sunday School 11:00 a.m. - Holy Communion, and Beginners' Class 7:00 p.m. - Evening Prayer A Welcome Awaits You | Baptist Church ACTON Douglas B. Shuter, Pastor SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 17th, 1952 10:30 a.m. - Sunday School 11:30 a.m. - Morning Worship 7:00 p.m. - Evening Worship 8:00 p.m. - B.Y.P.U. Thursday - 8 p.m., Prayer Meeting, 8:30 p.m., Study Group; 9:10 p.m., Discussion period. Friday - 4 p.m., Mission Band Welcome to All |